

**CLEAN VERSION OF THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) A method for obtaining a biologically active botulinum toxin, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a fermentation medium which is free of an animal product;
- (b) culturing a Clostridium botulinum bacterium in the fermentation medium under conditions which permit production of a botulinum toxin, and;
- (c) recovering a biologically active botulinum toxin from the fermentation medium, wherein the fermentation medium comprises a protein obtained from yeast or from a vegetable, wherein the vegetable is selected from the group consisting of a soy, malt and corn.

2-4 (cancelled).

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein in the step of culturing, the culturing is performed until at least 48 hours after initial drop in cell density due to cell lysis.

6-12 (cancelled).

13. (currently amended) A method for making a substantially animal product free pharmaceutical composition in which the active ingredient is a botulinum toxin, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining a biologically active botulinum toxin by:
  - (i) providing a fermentation medium which is free of an animal product;
  - (ii) culturing a Clostridium botulinum in the fermentation medium under conditions which permit production of a botulinum toxin, and;
  - (iii) recovering a biologically active botulinum toxin from the fermentation medium;
- (b) formulating the botulinum toxin with a suitable excipient, thereby making a

substantially animal product free pharmaceutical composition in which the active ingredient is a botulinum toxin,  
wherein the fermentation medium comprises a protein product obtained from yeast or from a vegetable, wherein the vegetable is selected from the group consisting of a soy, malt and corn.

14. (previously added) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of botulinum toxins types A, B, C, D, E, F and G.

15. (previously added) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is a botulinum toxin type A.

16. (previously added) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is a purified botulinum toxin.

17. (currently amended) A method for obtaining a biologically active botulinum toxin type A, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a fermentation medium which is free of an animal product;  
(b) culturing a Clostridium botulinum bacterium in the fermentation medium under conditions which permit production of a botulinum toxin, and;  
(c) recovering a biologically active botulinum toxin from the fermentation medium, wherein the fermentation medium comprises a protein obtained from yeast or from a vegetable, wherein the vegetable is selected from the group consisting of a soy, malt and corn.

18. (previously added) The method of claim 13, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of botulinum toxins types A, B, C, D, E, F and G.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the botulinum toxin is a botulinum toxin type A.

20. (previously added) The method of claim 13, wherein the botulinum toxin is a purified botulinum toxin.

21. (currently amended) A method for making an animal product free pharmaceutical composition in which the active ingredient is a botulinum toxin type A, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) obtaining a biologically active botulinum toxin type A by;

(i) providing a fermentation medium which is free of an animal product;

(ii) culturing a Clostridium botulinum in the fermentation medium under conditions which permit production of a botulinum toxin type A, and;

(iii) recovering a biologically active botulinum toxin type A from the fermentation medium;

(b) formulating the botulinum toxin type A with a suitable excipient, thereby making an animal product free pharmaceutical composition in which the active ingredient is a botulinum toxin type A,

wherein the fermentation medium comprises a protein product obtained from yeast or from a vegetable, wherein the vegetable is selected from the group consisting of a soy, malt and corn.